

MINUTES

Oklahoma Route 66 Commission
Oklahoma Chandler Interpretive Center
400 E. 1st St., Chandler, OK 74834
Friday, August 18, 2023, 1:00 P.M.

1. Call to order

Chair Lt. Governor Matt Pinnell called the Oklahoma Route 66 Commission to order at 1:00 P.M. on Friday, August 18, 2023, at the Oklahoma Chandler Interpretive Center, 400 E. 1st St., Chandler, OK.

2. Roll Call

Members present: John Feary, Tami Fleak, Tim Gatz, Gary Mol, Lt. Governor Matt Pinnell, Scot Rigby, Tom Tillison, Mark Wood

Guests present: Kerry Barrick, Rhys Martin, Trait Thompson, Dayna Robinson, Ryan Sproul, David Reed, Dawn Shelton, Dawn Sullivan, Joan Riley, Ken Busby, Rep. Mark Lawson, Mark Stroud, Nerissa Marbury

3. Declaration of a quorum

Chair Lt. Gov. Pinnell announced a declaration of quorum.

4. Rt 66 Past and Present Discussion

Kerry Barrick introduced herself to the Commission as the Route 66 Coordinator from the Department of Commerce. Ms. Barrick travels to each Route 66 community. First, Rhys Martin, president of the Oklahoma Route 66 Association, gave a presentation on the history of Route 66, its backstory starting with the Good Roads Movement, Cyrus Avery, and the U. S. Highway 66 Association. Mr. Martin also mentioned the Route 66 Revitalization era started by Angel Delgadillo from Arizona and how the route is called the “largest open-air museum in the world.”

Ms. Barrick spoke about centennial preparations. The goal as a state is to get people to spend as much time on Route 66 in Oklahoma as possible. She has been talking to mayors, city managers, rotaries, and anyone who will listen in each of the Route 66 communities. There is a need to get the word out and have each community ready for the centennial. Ms. Barrick has visited all but three of the 46 communities on the route. She spoke about what she has seen, expects, and what could be from these communities. The goal would be to have a committee in each community with the right people that can tell the lost stories, hold on to their authenticity and uniqueness.

Lt. Gov. Matt Pinnell said the idea was to get someone to visit each of these communities and do this analysis so the Commission would not have to start with nothing when it was created. With three people from Oklahoma on the U. S. Route 66 Centennial Commission (Michael Wallis, Tim Gatz, and Trait Thompson), this is a big deal for Oklahoma.

5. Approval of the Rt 66 Commission Emergency Rules

After much discussion, the following three changes were made to the Oklahoma Route 66 Commission Emergency Rules:

- a. Under 623:10-1-5. Minimum award: In case of unforeseen delays, the chairperson of the Commission may grant an extension of the anticipated completion date of the project.

This rule will be added between the current (c) and (d), making it the new (d). The reason for this addition was to be realistic about some projects having delays due to shipment of materials, items being back stocked, etc.

- b. Under “Minimum award,” added to the end of rule (g): These administrative costs are subject to review by the Commission.

The purpose of this addition is to give the Commission the ability to adjust where the administrative costs are being spent depending on the needs of the of the Commission and Route 66.

- c. Under 623:10-1-6. Judging rubric, the point amounts have changed. The rule will now read as: The four categories the rubric will take into consideration the below factors, but are not specific, which are worth 25 points each. If a project receives less than 50 points, it will be rejected with the option to be resubmitted with changes.

This change will allow a broader spectrum of points for the judging scale.

John Feary moved to approve the Route 66 Commission Emergency Rules with the three amended changes listed above. Seconded by Tom Tillison, the motion carried.

6. Approval of Grant Application

After the Commission discussion each of the questions in the grant application, some minor changes were made. Question 6 will read: Define any success for this project. What, if any, metrics will be put in place to track the outcome? Question 10 will read: Please list any prior grant experience.

Gary Mol moved to accept the question of the grant application with the changes. Seconded by Tom Tillison, the motion carried unanimously.

7. Grant Submission Process Discussion

Kerry Barrick explained the grant submission process to the Commission. The groups applying would be able to upload their documents. If there is a community or organization that is unable to do so, this Commission will work with them. No one will be left out because they do not have the technological capability to upload a document. Then the commission will receive the information. This will streamline the process of getting the judging and distribution portion.

Rep. Mark Lawson mentioned the two percent administrative fee should be used to create a webpage for this information which will be placed on the Department of Commerce's website.

8. Approval of Judging Rubric

Kerry Barrick said that as previously discussed in this meeting, the point system of the Judging Rubric in each section will be 0, 5 to 10, 15 to 20, and 25 points respectively, as opposed to the current 0, 1 to 2, 3 to 4, and 5 points. The wider range in points will help delineate the projects on

a broader scale.

John Feary moved to accept the new judging rubric. Seconded by Mark Wood, the motion carried unanimously.

9. Discussion about the difference of Rt 66 Centennial Commission and the Rt 66 Commission

Lt. Gov. Matt Pinnell mentioned the most prudent difference between the two commissions being the word “centennial.” The Centennial Commission will focus on planning and celebrating the 2026 celebratory events. The Centennial Commission has zero funding and will have to fundraise their dollars. The Route 66 Commission will be able to make a contribution to the Centennial Commission. The Centennial is only part of what the Route 66 Commission will use its funding for, as it has been created to promote the road.

Trait Thompson added that the state is going to be the point of contact for the national commission. Mr. Thompson is on the national event planning committee. This committee will be reaching out to the state centennial commissions for information.

10. New Business – Under the Open Meeting Act, this agenda item is authorized only for matters not known about or which could have been reasonably foreseen prior to the time of posting the agenda or any revised agenda

Tom Tillison announced that the Chandler Armory wants to do some upgrades to the building. He provided a handout with some information.

There was some continued discussion on the grant cycle and how often it should take place. But Kerry Barrick said that work is continuing on the details. More information to come at the next meeting.

11. Adjournment

There being no further business, Chair Lt. Governor Matt Pinnell adjourned the meeting of the Oklahoma Route 66 Commission at 3:23 p.m.